

Reply Comment on NPRM WT Docket No. 04-140:

I would like to respond to comment made by ARRL to this proceeding.

As an Extra class amateur licensee who previously held an Advanced class license since 1963 I am dismayed to discover that ARRL proposes to reduce the portion of the 40 Meter Band set aside for the exclusive use of Advanced and Extra class licensees from 75 KHz to 50 KHz.

There are more amateurs now upgrading to Extra class since the Morse code requirement has been reduced from 20 to 5 words per minute. They will not benefit from this proposal. I am a Charter Life Member of ARRL. The officers and counsel of ARRL do not speak for me in this regard. Surely they cannot speak for other Extra class amateurs who use the 40 Meter Band. Nor do I think they speak for the many Advanced class licensees who would have their operating privileges reduced by this proposal.

As long as we amateurs have separate classes of license, with greater privileges associated with higher class licenses, I do not believe it is in the best interest of the amateur radio service to reduce the privileges associated with advancing through the ranks. 40 Meters is my band of choice. The main impetus for my upgrade from General to Advanced class was to gain the exclusive use of 75 KHz on that band. Please do not reduce my privileges on 40 as proposed by ARRL.

Respectfully submitted,

Alvin B. Berglund, W6WJ
Glendale, California
June 30, 2004